

A N  
A C T  
F O R

The better Adjusting and more easy Recovery of the Wages of certain Servants, and for the better Regulation of such Servants, and of Certain Apprentices; And for the Punishment of all such Owners of Coal and their Agents, as shall knowingly Employ and set at Work Persons retained in the Service of other Coal Owners; And also that mutual Debts between Party and Party be set one against the other.

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D U B L I N :

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The first thing that I noticed  
when I stepped out of the  
train and into the bright  
sunlight of the morning was  
a sense of freedom. I had  
been waiting for this moment  
for so long, and now it was  
here. I took a deep breath  
and felt the sun on my face.  
It was a perfect day, and I  
knew that I was exactly where  
I needed to be. I smiled and  
looked up at the sky, feeling  
a sense of peace and joy.

THE END  
OF THE  
WORLD  
AND  
THE  
BEGINNING  
OF A  
NEW  
ONE



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## C H A P. VIII.

**W**H E R E A S the Laws now in being for the better Regulation of Servants, and for the Payment of Wages to them, and to Artificers, Handicrafts-Men, and Labourers are  
A a Insufficient



Be it Enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the first Day of May, which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and fifty two, all Complaints, Differences and Disputes, which shall happen or arise between Masters or Mistresses and Servants, or which shall happen or arise between Masters or Mistresses and Artificers, Handicrafts Men, Miners, Colliers, Keel-Men, Pit-Men, Glass-Men, Potters and other Labourers Employed for any certain Time or in any other Manner, shall be heard and Determined by any two Justices of the Peace of the County, City, Liberty, Town = Corporate or Place, where such Master or Mistress shall Inhabit, although no Rate or Assessment of Wages, has been made that Year by the Justices of the Peace, of the County or Liberty, or by the Mayor, Bailiffs, or other head Officer, where such Complaints shall be made, or where such Differences or Disputes shall Arise; Which said Justices, are hereby Impowered to Examine, upon Oath,



Oath, any such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or other Labourer, or any other Witness or Witnesses, Touching any such Complaint, Difference or Dispute, and to Summon such Master or Mistress, to Appear before such Justices at a Reasonable Time, not less than Forty eight Hours, to be prefixed in such Summons, and after hearing the Parties touching such Matter of Complaint, to make such Order for Payment of so much Wages to such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or other Labourer, as to such Justices shall seem Just and Reasonable; Provided that the Sum in Question do not exceed Five Pounds, With regard to any Servant, not Three Pounds With regard to any Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or Labourer; And in Case of Refusal or Non Payment of any Sums so Ordered by the Space of one and Twenty Days next after such Determination, such Justices shall and may Issue forth their Warrant to Levy the same by Distress and Sale of the Goods and Chattels of such Master or Mistress, or Person Employing such Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or other Labourer,



CHAP. **houer, Rendering the Overplus to the**  
 VIII. **Owner or Owners, after Payment of the**  
 ~~~~~ **Charges of such Distress and Sale.**

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful to and for such Justices, upon Application or Complaint made, upon Oath, by any Master, Mistress or Employer, against any such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter, or other Labourer, Touching or Concerning any Misdemeanour, Mischance or Ill-Behaviour in such his or her Service or Employment, which Oath such Justices are hereby Impowered to Administer, to Hear Examine and Determine the same, and to Punish the Offender by Commitment to the House of Correction, there to remain and be Corrected and held to Hard Labour for a Reasonable Time, not exceeding one Calendar Month or otherwise, by abating some part of his or her Wages, or by Discharging such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter, or other Labourer, from his her or their Service or Employment; And in like manner also it shall and may be Lawful to and for such Justices upon any Complaint or Application, upon Oath, by any such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts



crafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or other Labourer, against such Master, Mistress or Employer, Touching or Concerning any Misusage, Refusal of Necessary Provision, Cruelty or other Ill-Treatment of, to or towards, such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter, or other Labourer, to Summons such Master, Mistress or Employer, to Appear before such Justices at a Reasonable Time to be prefixed in such Summons, and such Justices shall and may Examine in to the matter of such Complaint, whether such Master, Mistress or Employer shall appear or not, Proof being made upon Oath of his or her being duly Summoned, and upon Proof thereof made upon Oath to their Satisfaction to Discharge such Servant, Artificer, Handicrafts-Man, Miner, Collier, Keel-Man, Pit-Man, Glass-Man, Potter or other Labourer, of and from his said Service and Employment, which Discharge shall be given under the Hands and Seals of such Justices Gratis.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be Lawful, to and for any Two or more such Justices, upon any Complaint or Application by any Apprentice, upon whose

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Binding



CHAP. Binding out no larger a Sum than Five  
 VIII. Pounds Sterling, Was Paid, Touching or  
 Concerning any Misusage, Refusal of Ne-  
 cessary Provision, Cruelty, or other Ill-  
 Treatment of, or towards such Appren-  
 tice, by his or her Master or Mistress, to  
 Summon such Master or Mistress to Ap-  
 pear before such Justices, at a Reasonable  
 Time to be Named in such Summons,  
 and such Justices shall and may Exa-  
 mine into the Matter of such Complaint,  
 and upon Proof thereof, Made upon Oath  
 to their Satisfaction, Whether the Master  
 or Mistress be Present or not, if Service  
 of the Summons be also upon Oath Pro-  
 ved, the said Justices may Discharge such  
 Apprentice by Warrant or Certificate, un-  
 der their Hands and Seals, for which  
 Warrant or Certificate no Fees shall be  
 Paid.

And be it further Enacted by the Au-  
 thority aforesaid, That it shall and may  
 be Lawful, to and for such Justices, up-  
 on Application or Complaint Made upon  
 Oath, by any Master or Mistress against  
 any such Apprentice, Touching or Con-  
 cerning any Misdemeanour, Miscalriage,  
 or Ill-Behaviour in such his or her Ser-  
 vice, which Oath such Justices are here-  
 by Impowered to Administer, to Hear, Ex-  
 amine and Determine the same, and to  
 Punish



Punish the Offender by Commitment to the House of Correction, there to Remain and be Corrected, and Held to hard Labour for a Reasonable Time, not exceeding One Kalendar Month, or otherwise by Discharging such Apprentice, in Manner and Form before Mentioned. CHAP. VIII.

Provided nevertheless, That if any Person or Persons shall Think himself, herself, or themselves Agrieved by such Determination, Order or Warrant of such Justices as aforesaid, Save and Except any Order of Commitment, he, she or they may Appeal to the next General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, to be Held for the County, Liberty, City, Town-Corporate, or Place where such Determination or Order shall be Made; Which said next General Quarter-Sessions is hereby Impowered to Hear and finally Determine the same, and to Give and Award such Costs to any of the respective Persons, Appellant or Respondent, as the said Sessions shall Adjudge reasonable, not exceeding Five Pounds, the same to be Levied by Distress and Sale, in Manner before Mentioned.

Provided also, And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in Determining all and every the Matters in Difference as aforesaid, Where there are



CHAP.

VIII.

Mutual Demands betwixt the Parties, not exceeding Five Pounds, the Demand or Debt of the one, may be Set against the Demand or Debt of the other; And that no Writ of Certiorari, or other Process, shall Issue or be Issuable to Remove any Proceedings whatsoever had as aforesaid, in Pursuance of this Act, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record at Dublin.

And for the better Carrying on, and Working Coal-Mines:

Be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That no Coal-Owner of any Collieries or Coal-Mines, his or their Overseer or Agent, shall knowingly Employ, or set at Work any Overseer or Agent, Engineer, Pit-Man, Sinker, Collier, Harrier, Banks-Man, Carr, Cart, or Waggon-Driver, Labourer, Carpenter, Wright-Smith, or other Person or Persons who are, or shall be Retained, Hired, or Agreed with, and actually Employed in the said Coal Business, by any other Coal-Owner of Collieries or Coal-Mines, or any of them, or his, or their Overseer or Agent, During the Time he shall be Employed under such Retainer, Hiring, or Agreement and his Wages duly Paid, or knowingly Keep or Employ such Person or Persons



persons upon Pain and Penalty for ever CHAP. VIII.  
 ry Six Days he or they shall Keep or  
 Employ such Person or Persons, to For-  
 feit and Pay the Coal-Owner, to Whom  
 such Person was Hired or Retained, for  
 every such Offence, the Sum of five  
 Pounds, to be Recovered in a Summary  
 Way, in like Manner as Debts are Re-  
 coverable by Civil Bill before the Judges  
 of Assize;

Provided, That any Persons who shall  
 be Retained, Hired or Agreed with as a-  
 foresaid, and shall not be paid their  
 Wages within fourteen Days after the  
 same shall become Due, such Persons  
 may be Hired and Employed by any o-  
 ther Person or Persons whatsoever.

And be it further Enacted by the Au-  
 thority aforesaid, That in all Suits at  
 Law, where there are mutual Debts be-  
 tween a Plaintiff and Defendant, or if  
 either Party Sue, or be Sued as Ex-  
 ecutor or Administrator, where there are  
 mutual Debts between the Testator or  
 Intestate, and either Party One Debt  
 may be set against the other, and such  
 Matter may be given in Evidence upon  
 the General Issue, or Pleaded in Barr  
 as the Nature of the Case shall Re-  
 quire, so as at the Time of his Plead-  
 ing the General Issue where any such  
 Debt



CHAP.

VIII.

Debt of the Plaintiff, his Teſtator or Intestate is Intended to be Inſiſted on in Evidence, Notice ſhall be given of the particular Sum or Debt ſo Intended to be Inſiſted on, and upon what Account it became Due, or otherwiſe ſuch Matter ſhall not be Allowed in Evidence upon ſuch General Iſſue.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That this Act ſhall Continue and be in Force for the Space of Elve Years, and until the End of the then next Seſſion of Parliament and no longer.



